



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
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OPNAVINST 3140.55C
N2N6
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OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3140.55C

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: OCEANOGRAPHIC, HYDROGRAPHIC, AND BATHYMETRIC SURVEY
PROGRAM

Ref: (a) CJCSI 3170.01I
(b) OPNAVINST 5430.56A
(c) CJCSI 3250.01E (NOTAL)
(d) OPNAVINST 3128.9F

Encl: (1) Oceanographic, Hydrographic, and Bathymetric Requirements Submission Guidance
(2) Oceanographic, Hydrographic, and Bathymetric Definitions

1. Purpose. To establish policy, procedures, and responsibilities for the submission, assessment, prioritization, and validation of oceanographic, hydrographic, and bathymetric (OHB) survey requirements, implementing the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) policies contained in reference (a). This revision provides additional linkage to the Global Force Management (GFM) Allocation Plan (GFMALP), which would be unavailable upon planned cancellation of COMUSFLTFORCOMINST 3140.55A. This is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 3140.55B.

3. Scope and Applicability. The policy and procedures set forth in this directive are applicable to all naval activities, and to commands and activities that submit OHB requirements to the U.S. Navy.

4. Discussion

a. The Oceanographer and Navigator of the Navy (OPNAV N2N6E) serves as the Chief of Naval Operations' (CNO) resource sponsor for OHB survey operations conducted by Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (COMNAVMETOCCOM), under the operational direction of Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command (COMUSFLTFORCOM).

b. The U.S. Navy operates a range of forces capable of conducting state-of-the-art OHB surveys including a fleet of multi-purpose oceanographic survey ships, navigation test support ships, the fleet survey team, airborne coastal survey systems, mine warfare support units, and unmanned underwater vehicles.

c. Joint Staff, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Assessment Division Chief (J-32), performs the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) duties previously assigned to Commander, U.S. Strategic Command (COMUSSTRATCOM). The J-32 provides subject matter expertise on ISR and associated portable electronic device requirements and sourcing. The J-32 coordinates with combatant commanders (CCDR) and force providers to identify and recommend, via the joint force commander or joint force package, synchronized global sourcing solutions for ISR and associated portable electronic device requirements.

5. Policy. The Navy is responsible for providing oceanographic services, set forth in inter-Service agreements for all elements of the Department of Defense (DoD). OPNAV N2N6E coordinates validation of ocean survey requirements for platforms and mission equipment per reference (b). CNO priorities for OHB surveys are defined in subparagraphs 5a through 5c.

a. Priority One. Mission Critical. Related to deficiencies that may prevent the performance of a mission or preclude satisfactory mission accomplishment.

b. Priority Two. Mission Essential. Related to deficiencies that significantly degrade force effectiveness or prevent performance of some portion of an assigned mission.

c. Priority Three. Mission Enhancing. Related to deficiencies which may reduce full mission accomplishment.

6. Annual OHB Cycle. The annual OHB cycle, from submission of validated CCDR and Service OHB requirements to development of the GFMAP and scheduling of military oceanographic survey assets, is executed using the process in subparagraphs 6a through 6e.

a. COMNAVMETOCCOM issues the OHB requirements solicitation message. Enclosure (1) provides OHB requirements submission guidance.

b. Assessment of all new OHB requirements against existing data held by COMNAVMETOCCOM and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA).

c. Fleet Oceanographic Support Workshop (FOSW) hosted by COMNAVMETOCCOM, serves as the primary forum for review, adjudication, and prioritization of CCDR and Service OHB requirements. The principal deliverable from the FOSW is the prioritized CCDR and Service OHB survey requirements list. This master list provides the framework necessary for the operational planning and execution of OHB survey missions and allocation of oceanographic survey forces and capabilities.

d. The OHB survey program review includes representatives from Service staffs, COMUSFLTFORCOM, Naval Information Forces (NAVIFOR), COMNAVMETOCCOM, Naval Oceanographic Office, and NGA. Participation by the Chairman's Joint Chiefs of Staff and other resource sponsors is encouraged. The OHB program review will:

(1) Assess the capacity and capabilities of the existing OHB survey enterprise to satisfy CCDR and Service OHB survey requirements.

(2) Identify requirements for new OHB survey capabilities and develop program recommendations with assistance from NAVIFOR as needed.

e. GFMAP for OHB survey forces (COMUSFLTFORCOM).

7. Emergent OHB Requirements. These are out-of-cycle requirements that are critical or time-sensitive in nature. Procedures for requesting emergent OHB support are outlined in subparagraph 8c.

8. Action

a. OPNAV N2N6E

(1) Ensure a balanced ocean survey program satisfying desired effects and long-term fleet capabilities, including platform, sensor, and technology development;

(2) Promote alignment between survey objectives and the national maritime plan, Navy strategic plan, and joint integrated priorities list, consistent with force allocation priorities; and

(3) Conduct the annual OHB program review.

b. COMUSFLTFORCOM

(1) Execute oversight of the OHB survey program;

(2) As the Navy lead for GFM, provide global force allocation of OHB survey forces;

(3) Develop annual GFMAP sourcing nominations for OHB survey forces per Secretary of Defense Guidance for the Employment of the Force, and the prioritized CCDR and Service OHB survey requirements list;

(4) Develop GFM sourcing positions for OHB survey forces in response to an emergent CCDR request for forces; and

(5) Develop Navy (Service-level) sourcing solutions for OHB survey forces in response to a fleet commander or naval component commander request for support (RFS).

c. Fleet Commanders and Naval Component Commanders

(1) Submit navigation test support ship “presence” requirements in the Joint Capabilities Requirements Manager per the annual GFM cycle for rotational forces;

(2) For an emergent CCDR OHB requirement, submit a request for forces to the Joint Staff per the current Secretary of Defense GFM guidance;

(3) For an emergent Navy (Service-level) OHB requirement, submit an RFS by record message via chain of command to COMUSFLTFORCOM and COMNAVMETOCCOM, with copy to OPNAV N2N6E;

(4) Document Joint exercise OHB support requirements in the Joint Training Information Management System;

(5) For a Navy (Service-level) exercise that requires OHB support, submit an RFS a minimum of 90 days prior to the start of the exercise. Exercises requiring OHB support in other territorial waters should be submitted prior to diplomatic clearances and concept of operations timelines, which may require 4 to 6 month’s advance.

d. COMNAVMETOCCOM

(1) Execute the OHB survey program for the Navy, including designation of correct survey asset allocations;

(2) Manage the OHB survey enterprise, ensuring survey capacity and capabilities are efficiently assigned to the highest priority CCDR and Service OHB requirements;

(3) Annually collect, review, prioritize, and maintain a database of all CCDR and Service OHB requirements;

(4) Release the annual OHB requirements solicitation message;

(5) In collaboration with NGA, assess all new OHB requirements against existing national source and survey data;

(6) Convene and chair the annual FOSW;

(7) Develop and finalize the annual prioritized CCDR and Service OHB survey requirements list for submission to J-32;

(8) Ensure that survey operations are planned and conducted per the provisions of references (c) and (d); and

(9) Assist commands or activities requiring technical guidance concerning OHB survey matters.

9. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned for the standard subject identification codes 1000 through 13000 series per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/AA), Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page at <https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the DON/AA DRMD program office.

10. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, CNO N2N6E will review this instruction annually around the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 10 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 10-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the need for cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1 of May 2016.

11. Information Management Control. Data collections contained in paragraph 6 and paragraph 8 are exempt from information management control per SECNAV M5214.1, of December 2005, part IV subparagraph 7k.



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Department of Navy Issuances Web site, <https://doni.documentservices.dla.mil>.

OCEANOGRAPHIC, HYDROGRAPHIC, AND BATHYMETRIC (OHB)
REQUIREMENTS SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

1. OHB Requirements Guidance

a. Purpose. OHB surveys collect source data necessary to produce the maps, charts, and databases needed to support navigation, operational plans (OPLANS), joint and naval operations and exercises, and intelligence preparation of the environment. OHB requirements are "Area" or "Geographic" requirements that are developed by each theater Navy component commander (NCC) and validated by their respective geographic CCDR. Unified commanders without an assigned geographic area of responsibility should forward OHB requirements to the respective theater NCC for inclusion in their annual submission package. Service OHB requirements will be coordinated through the cognizant theater NCC and COMUSFLTFORCOM.

b. Formats. Requirements for OHB products, services, and data are to be submitted via record correspondence to COMNAVMETOPCOM and the Naval Oceanographic Office, with copies to COMUSFLTFORCOM and OPNAV N2N6E. Electronic inputs will also be made into the Web-based OHB requirements management system.

c. OHB Priority. Commands submitting requirements will designate them either as priority 1 (mission critical), priority 2 (mission essential), or priority 3 (mission enhancing), per the criteria outlined in paragraph 5 of this instruction.

d. Required Information. Each OHB requirement submission should also include the essential elements of information as listed below in subparagraphs 1d(1) through 1d(8).

(1) OHB Requirement. Identify the standard or desired product(s), service, data, or capability.

Note: If the desired product or dataset is produced by the NGA (e.g., nautical chart, tactical ocean data), the requesting command will ensure the requirement is also submitted via NGA's requirements process.

(2) Justification. Identify the National, DoD, joint, or naval mission area(s) supported: safety of navigation, major combat operations, homeland security, homeland defense, CCDR plans (OPLANS and concept plan), theater security cooperation (TSC), National Intelligence Priorities Framework, training or exercise, tactical decision aids, or research, development, testing and evaluation.

(3) Intended Use. Identify the naval operational and joint mission areas to be supported: navigation, antisubmarine warfare, mine warfare, naval special warfare, strike warfare, training, nuclear deterrence, etc.

(4) Readiness Assessment. Provide an assessment of the specific impact and risk to fleet operations, readiness, and effectiveness for the missions supported.

(5) TSC and Engagement. Provide an assessment of the TSC requirements and impacts as applicable.

(6) Geographic Area. Identify the geographic areas required as precisely as possible. If known, provide specific coordinates to define the required area. For large areas, subdivide the area and prioritize each subarea.

(7) Threat Assessment. Provide an assessment of anticipated access and force protection constraints.

(8) Required Delivery Date. Identify the required delivery date for each product.

OCEANOGRAPHIC, HYDROGRAPHIC, AND BATHYMETRIC DEFINITIONS

1. Marine Data Collection. Marine data collection is a general term used when referring to all types of survey or marine scientific activity, i.e., military surveys, hydrographic surveys, and marine scientific research.
2. Marine Scientific Research. Marine scientific research refers to activities undertaken following part XIII of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 in the ocean and coastal waters, whose purpose is to expand general scientific knowledge of the marine environment. The results of marine scientific research are generally made publicly available. Marine scientific research does not include prospecting and exploration of natural resources, hydrographic surveys, or military activities.
3. Military Survey. Military survey refers to activities undertaken in territorial seas, archipelagic waters, straits for navigation, the exclusive economic zone (EEZ), high seas, and on the continental shelf involving marine data collection (whether or not classified) for military purposes (e.g., not shared with the general public. Military surveys can include oceanographic, hydrographic, bathymetric, marine geological, geophysical, chemical, biological, acoustic, non-acoustic, and related data).
4. Oceanography. Study of the ocean surface, water column, and bottom features including the propagation of acoustic, optical, and other forms of energy.
5. Hydrography. Depiction of shallow water bottom features, coastline, beach, tides, and surf characterization.
6. Bathymetry. Measurement of water depths and bottom contour lines with precise geographic locations.
7. Territorial Sea. A belt of sea adjacent to a coastal state extending seaward up to a breadth of 12 nautical miles. Use of baselines, as determined by international law, may result in territorial seas extending more than 12 miles offshore. The coastal state has sovereignty over the territorial sea, air space over the territorial sea, and seabed and subsoil under the territorial sea, subject to the right of ships of all states to engage in innocent passage.
8. EEZ. An area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea, extending up to 200 nautical miles from the baselines determined per international law. The coastal State enjoys sovereign rights over resource-related matters, and has jurisdiction over artificial islands, installations, structures, marine scientific research and matters related to protection and preservation of the marine environment in the EEZ.
9. High Seas. The high seas include all parts of the sea that are not included in the EEZ, territorial sea, internal waters, or archipelagic waters of a state. Currently, not all nations accept

these interpretations, distinguishing between marine scientific research, military surveys, or hydrographic surveys for the production of charts to support safety of navigation. To promote universal acceptance and ensure the U.S. Navy's freedom of operation, Department of the Navy must consistently distinguish between military or hydrographic surveys and marine scientific research. Refer to OPNAVINST 3128.9F, OPNAVINST C3128.3U, and United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.